Faunitaxys

Revue de Faunistique, Taxonomie et Systématique morphologique et moléculaire

Volume 14
Numéro 21

Mars 2026

ISSN (Print) : 2269 - 6016
ISSN (Online) : 2970 - 4960
Dépôt légal : Mars 2026

Faunitaxys

Revue de Faunistique, Taxonomie et Systématique morphologique et moléculaire

ZooBank : https://zoobank.org/79A36B2E-F645-4F9A-AE2B-ED32CE6771CC

Directeur de la publication, rédacteur, conception graphique et PAO:
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Faunitaxys est indexé dans / ***Faunitaxys*** is indexed in:
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Imprimé le 13 03 2026

https://doi.org/10.57800/faunitaxys-14(21)

A new genus and species of Ptinidae (Coleoptera) from Eocene Baltic amber

JIŘÍ HÁVA (1,*) & PETR ZAHRADNÍK (2)

(1) Private Entomological Laboratory & Collection, Rýznerova 37/37, CZ-252 62 Únětice u Prahy, Prague-west, Czech Republic.
- E-mail: jh.dermestidae@volny.cz - Orcid: https://orcid.org/0000-0001-8076-9538 - ZooBank: https://zoobank.org/71D662DB-2F3D-4418-98B6-E1DF82895AC5

(2) Forestry and Game Management Research Institute, Strnady 136, CZ-156 00 Praha 5-Zbraslav, Czech Republic.
- E-mail: zahradnik@vulhm.cz - Orcid: https://orcid.org/0000-0002-4508-8179 - ZooBank: https://zoobank.org/596F103E-0BDB-44A3-87AA-FC49C8F12835

* Corresponding author

Keywords:

Coleoptera; Ptinidae; Dryophylinae; *Hirtulus*; taxonomy; description; new species; new genus; Baltic Amber; Russia.

Abstract. – The species *Hirtulus depressus* **gen**. et **sp**. **nov**. is described from Eocene Baltic amber.

Háva J. & Zahradník P., 2026. – A new genus and species of Ptinidae (Coleoptera) from Eocene Baltic amber. *Faunitaxys*, 14(21): 1 – 4.

DOI: https://doi.org/10.57800/faunitaxys-14(21)

ZooBank: https://zoobank.org/7D34EA06-C0C3-4185-9C30-C7B3C1BFBF0C

Received: 23/02/2026 – *Revised*: 08/03/2026 – *Accepted*: 10/03/2026

Introduction

The family Ptinidae (Coleoptera) from Baltic amber has been recently studied (Alekseev, 2012, 2013, 2014; Alekseev & Bukejs, 2019a-b, 2021, 2025; Alekseev et al., 2019, 2023; Bukejs & Alekseev, 2015; Bukejs et al,. 2017, 2018, 2021; Háva & Zahradník, 2019a-b, 2020a-d, 2022; Zahradník & Háva, 2014b, 2017, 2019). The subfamily Dryophylinae LeConte, 1861 divided into two tribes Ptilineurini Böving, 1927 and Dryophylini LeConte, 1861 with 12 genera worldwide (Zahradník & Háva, 2014a). A new genus and species are here described from the Eocene Baltic amber. Two species from the subfamily are known from Baltic amber: *Dryophilus hoffeinsorum* Alekseev, 2014 and *Homopthalmus kunnegsgarbensis* Alekseev, 2014.

Material and Methods

The habitus photograph was made by a digital camera using a Canon EOS 4000D camera on a Nikon SMZ800 stereobinocular microscope with a SMZ1500 and PLAN APO lens.

The type material is deposited in the following collection:

JHAC: Private Entomological Laboratory and Collection, Jiří Háva, Únětice u Prahy, Prague west, Czech Republic.

Type specimen of the new species described here is provided with a red, printed label showing the following text: HOLOTYPE *Hirtulus* gen. nov. *depressus* sp. nov. J. Háva & P. Zahradník det. 2026.

Results

Subfamily **Dryophylinae** LeConte, 1861

Tribe **Dryophylini** LeConte, 1861

***Hirtulus* gen. nov.**

ZooBank: https://zoobank.org/AD190461-885C-45A7-BC59-8C3A1ED41491

Type species: *Hirtulus depressus* **sp**. **nov**. (by monotypy).

Description. – Body oval, transversally and longitudinally convex, body length 1.5 mm, width 0.7 mm. Head prognathous. Antennae with 11 antennomeres, the last 3 antennomeres enlarged (Fig. 2). Pronotum coarsely punctate, with deep longitudinal depression in middle on anterior part (Fig. 3), covered by long, dark brown erect setae. Elytra shortly oval, without distinct costae, covered with long, erect, black setae (Fig. 1). Legs black, robust and short. Tarsal claws short, without teeth.

Diagnosis. – The new genus belongs to tribe Dryophilini and differs from all known similar fossil and recent Palaearctic genera by the deep depression on the anterior part of the pronotum.

Etymology. – Named according to long erect setation on dorsal surfaces of elytra. Masculine gender.

***Hirtulus depressus* sp. nov.**

(Fig. 1-3)

ZooBank: https://zoobank.org/C38FADBC-A561-49CA-BAFD-98AE97BD10A5

Holotype, (unsexed): Amber inclusion No. 5390, Russia, Kaliningrad district, Yantarnyj, (JHAC).
Complete beetle is included in transparent amber piece, with dimensions of 20×13×4 mm. Syninclusions consist of numerous small to minute organic particles.

Type horizon. – Baltic Amber, Upper or mid-Eocene.

Description of holotype

Body. – Oval (Fig. 1), transversally and longitudinally convex, body length 1.5 mm, width 0.7 mm (in amber situation). Pronotum, head, elytra and abdomen black, antennae and legs black.

Head. – Prognathous, almost flattened, finely punctate. – *Eyes* large, rounded, slightly convex, glabrous. – *Antennae* with 11 antennomeres, the last 3 antennomeres enlarged (Fig. 2). – *Palpomeres* very short and broad, black.

Reviewer : Vladimír Novák (*Praha, Czech Republic*) - https://orcid.org/0000-0001-9287-2014 - https://zoobank.org/D5C7B806-1C9E-4C99-944A-13A71EE01B79

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Key to genera

1. Pronotum with deep longitudinal depression in middle on anterior part (Fig. 3) . . . . . ***Hirtulus* gen. nov.**
– Pronotum without deep depression **2**

2. Elytral intervals about as wide as striae; punctures in striae large; mesotarsi wider than protarsi; frons wide . . . . . ***Grynobius*** C. G. Thomson, 1859
– Elytral intervals cosiderably wider than striae; mesotarsi as wide as protarsi; frons narrow **3**

3. Prosternal process relatively narrow, mesosternal process very short, rounded apically; last three antennomeres very long, longer than remaining antennomeres combined . . . . . ***Dryophilus*** Chevrolat, 1832
– Prosternal process relatively wide, mesosternal process prolonged to point between coxae and rectangular; last three antennomeres combined shorter than remaining antennomeres combined . . . . . ***Homopthalmus*** Abeille de Perrin, 1875

Pronotum. – Transverse, coarsely punctate, with deep longitudinal depression in middle on anterior part (Fig. 3), covered by long, dark brown, short dense erect setae.

Elytra. – Shortly oval, covered by short, dense, recumbent setation. – *Metaventrite* finely punctured.

Legs. – Black, robust and short. Claws short, without teeth.

Abdomen. – All ventrites of the same length; ventrites I and II with large punctures, ventrites III-V with small punctures.

Differential diagnosis. – See the diagnosis of the genus.

Name derivation. – Named according to the Latin word *depressus* referring to the depression on the pronotum.

Other Material Examined

Dryophilus hoffeinsorum Alekseev, 2014

Material examined: **1** spec., Russia, Sambia, Yantarny, Kaliningrad Region, No. C4333, J. Háva det., (JHAC).

Homopthalmus kunnegsgarbensis Alekseev, 2014

Material examined: **1** spec., Russia, Sambia, Yantarny, Kaliningrad Region, No. C4588, J. Háva det., (JHAC).

Acknowledgements

The authors very indebted to Jan Hrdlička (Czech Republic) for his important assistance with the inclusions from Burmese amber and to Larry G. Bezark (California, USA) for the comments and English revision to the manuscript. The paper was supported by the Ministry of Agriculture of the Czech Republic, institutional support MZE-RO0118.

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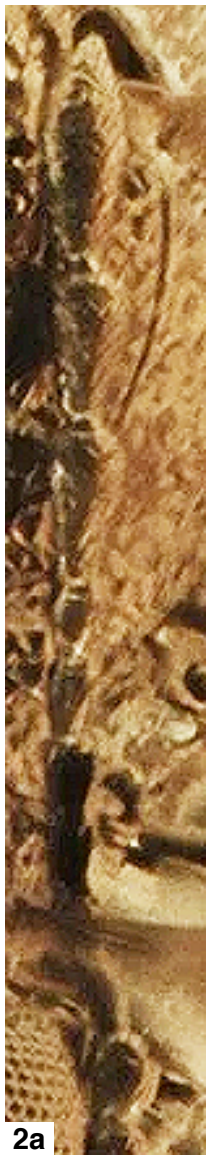

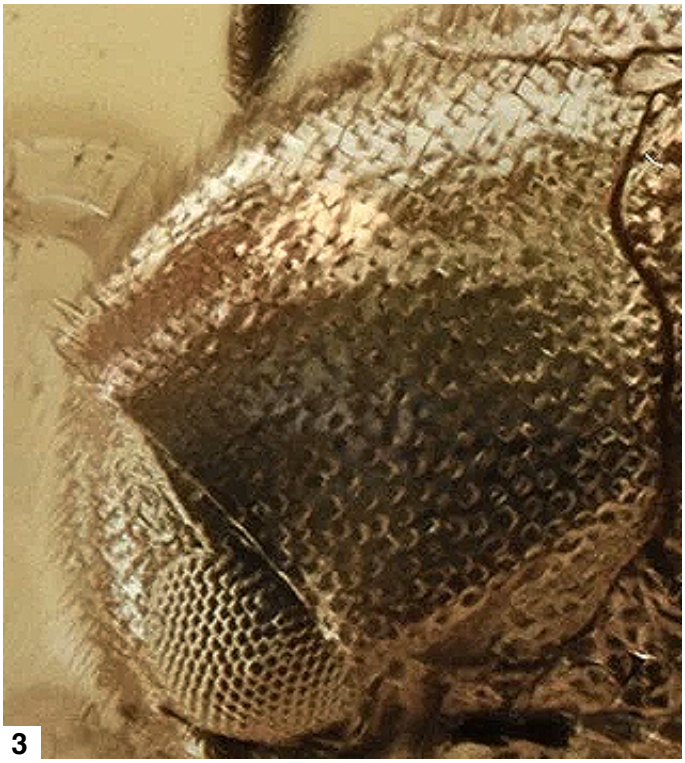

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Fig. **1-3**. *Hirtulus depressus* **gen**. et **sp**. **nov**. (holotype). **1**. **a**,**b**. Dorso-lateral aspect. **2**. **a**,**b**. Antenna. **3**. Pronotum.

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Authors contribution [1]

Publisher Correspondence. – JH
Writing the article. – JH, PZ
Description. – JH, PZ
Article proofreading. – JH
Bibliographic work. – JH, PZ
Material study. – JH, PZ
Author of the figures. – JH

[1] **JH** = Jiří Háva – **PZ** = Petr Zahradník

Résumé

Háva J. & Zahradník P., 2026. – Un nouveau genre et une nouvelle espèce de Ptinidae (Coleoptera) provenant de l'ambre de la Baltique de l'Éocène. *Faunitaxys*, 14(21): 1 – 4.

L'espèce *Hirtulus depressus* **gen**. et **sp**. **nov**. est décrite à partir de l'ambre de la Baltique de l'Éocène.

Mots-clés. – Coleoptera, Ptinidae, Dryophylinae, *Hirtulus*, taxonomie, description, espèce nouvelle, genre nouveau, Ambre, Baltique, Russie.

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Faunitaxys

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Illustration de la couverture :

Hirtulus depressus **gen**. et **sp**. **nov**. (holotype).

Crédits:

Jiří Háva : Fig. 1-3.

Publié par l'Association Française de Cartographie de la Faune et de la Flore (AFCFF)